

Sierra Pacific Industries

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November 29, 2005

Mr. Craig J. Wilson Water Quality Assessment Unit Division of Water Quality State Water Resources Control Board P. O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

Dear Mr. Wilson:

We are aware of two letters you have received requesting that the State Water Resources Control Board make a change in the descriptions of the 303(d) listing of the Fall River in Shasta County. Specifically, they have requested that "sedimentation/siltation" be removed as a "stressor" and that "silviculture" be removed from the list of current sources.

This correspondence has come from the Fall River Resource Conservation District and from W.M. Beaty & Associates, both of whom have extensive experience and knowledge of the Fall River watershed. This letter is to let you know that Sierra Pacific Industries fully concurs with these requests and joins with them in asking you to make these changes.

Sierra Pacific is a major landowner in northeastern California with over 11,000 acres that are within the Fall River watershed. We are aware of the multiple justifications presented by both the RCD and by Beaty. We understand that this change has been discussed with representatives of the Central Valley RWOCB. We are familiar with the 1998 Tetra Tech Report and its conclusion that sources other than silviculture (channelization of meadow functions and major railroad crossing failures) are likely the cause of the existing coarse grained deposits in the lower reaches of the Fall River. We have been supportive of the many restoration projects initiated since the release of that report such as multiple meadow restorations and stabilizations, river bank exclusion fencing, railroad crossing replacement, and reforestation and fuel reductions.

To more accurately reflect current conditions, as well as to maintain the productive and cooperative landowner-agency relationships developed in this watershed, we urge the Board to revise the information regarding the 303(d) status of the Fall River.

Thank you,

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Herb Baldwin Redding District Manager